



HARTFIELD
PARISH
COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2011 Volume 2 Issue 6



ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MONDAY 18TH April 7.30pm
HARTFIELD VILLAGE HALL
**Hartfield Fun Run Sunday 17th April*



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

This edition of the Newsletter marks the end of a busy four year term of the current Parish Council and I highlight in this report just some of the activities that we have been involved in. A fuller report will be available at the meeting on the 18th April.

Much of the work of a Parish Council is conducted through the various committees so I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Chairmen and Committees for their commitment and dedication during their term of office. HPC has six committees Planning, Town Croft & Parish Assets, Rights of Way, Environment and Transport, Finance and Strategy. The planning team meet most frequently giving feedback to Wealden on all Hartfield planning applications. ROW has several members of the public on the committee and does excellent work in liaising with ESCC and organising working parties which help to keep our footpaths open. In an effort to reduce speeding on our roads, several Councillors together with interested parishioners, trained to operate the Speed Indicator Device (SID) to alert motorists to the dangers of exceeding the speed limits. The Town Croft & Parish Assets team continued to implement a maintenance programme whilst moving ahead with improvements to the Pavilion as funds would allow. Please see Town Croft & Parish Assets report on page 4. The help given by parishioners is always very much appreciated.

One of the main events during our current term of office has been the opening of a new state of the art surgery building for the Groombridge and Hartfield Practice. The Parish Council worked very closely with and supported the Primary Care Trust in order to build the surgery on the Old Crown Farm site owned by the Buckhurst Estate. The whole development is now complete with 9 affordable houses, now occupied, a farm shop, pantry in the rebuilt former wheelwright's premises and a small office block. The access road has been named Sackville Lane.



The other major project that has occupied an enormous amount of time during the past four years has been the on-going development of the Coalyard Land which we bought for the Parish in 2007. We profitably sold part of our land to a Registered Social Landlord to build 9 affordable houses. The bidding process is described on Page 4. We had to negotiate with many parties to gain planning permission. We used part of the sale proceeds to construct a car park and lay services to the historic old Goods Shed building which we retained. Planning permission has now been obtained for parish offices downstairs and two 1 bedroom flats above. After a full tendering process, four builders were invited to quote for the renovation work. Valley Builders of East Grinstead were selected and Woodward Ambrose the architects were appointed as Project Managers. Work is planned to start on May 9th.



On May 5th there will be elections to appoint new Parish and District Councillors across Wealden. Five of our Hartfield Parish Councillors decided for various reasons, not to stand for re-election; they are Tommy Mitchell, Clair Park, Chris Simmons, George Korbelt and Sheila van Maurik and again I thank them for the many years of service they have given to the parish and wish them the very best for the future, they will be missed. Clair will remain as our Tree Warden. Nominations closed on the 4th April and regrettably only two new parishioners put their name forward so there will be no election for Parish Councillors as only 10 names went forward to fill 13 places. This is in no way a unique situation in Hartfield; the same pattern of uncontested seats is shared in many neighbouring parishes who have also found it difficult to find volunteers to put themselves forward as Parish Councillors.

Our District Councillor Michael Hoy will also be standing down but because more than one candidate has applied, **there will be an election for a DISTRICT Councillor.** I thank Michael for all the time and effort which he has dedicated to the Parish. He has kept a watchful eye over development in Hartfield and looked after our interests at Wealden District Council. I wish Michael and his wife Sally the very best of luck for the future when they move to their new home. It has just been reported that Cllr. David Jonas will not be standing again for the Holtye Ward of Forest Row, another sad loss of a good District Councillor.

I look forward to meeting some of you at the Annual Parish Meeting on the 18th April in the Village Hall.

John Chalke - Chairman Hartfield Parish Council.

PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT Due to an parish has been processed at a slightly lower 2011/12. At this time of general cost on spending and planned a careful budget year but would like to make the parish aware necessary to increase our council tax precept further to maintain services in 2012/13.



administrative error the planned precept increase for the level meaning a minimal increase to council tax bills in cutting, we had already put in place restrictions for the coming year. We plan on another efficient if our external costs continue to rise it may be



Emma Fulham – Clerk to Hartfield Parish Council

Hartfield Fun Run 2011 – Sunday 17th April

All proceeds go to the Hartfield Pavilion Renovation Fund.

It's not too late to enter the 2011 Fun Run. You can enter on distances to suit all levels of ability and fitness. The 2k (1.2 miles) is a gentle trot through the fields near the Forest Way. The additional distance is 5.6k (3.5 miles) and leads up to St Ives Lane and back past Lower Parrock – plenty of opportunity to stop and admire the view or the most dedicated might finish the course in 20 minutes! The 10k (6 miles) is for the most dedicated but, surprisingly, it is also the most popular. This year's route is new and improved omitting 7 stiles. All distances are also for walkers who will be supplied with a walkers' map and instructions.



race day up to 10am. This year we have three miles) is a gentle trot through the fields near the Forest Way. The additional distance is 5.6k (3.5 miles) and leads up to St Ives Lane and back past Lower Parrock – plenty of opportunity to stop and admire the view or the most dedicated might finish the course in 20 minutes! The 10k (6 miles) is for the most dedicated but, surprisingly, it is also the most popular. This year's route is new and improved omitting 7 stiles.

- Race headquarters Town Croft Hartfield East Sussex TN7 4AD
- Facilities, Car Parking, Toilets, Shower, Bag Drop, Refreshments, BBQ, Bar.
- Fun for all the family. Children's Playground

We are grateful to our sponsors - Central Garage Upper Hartfield Ltd and Vector (Experts in IT Recruitment). For more details visit www.hartfieldonline.com (click Fun Run) or phone Eddie on 01892 770201.

RIGHTS OF WAY



The new path became the official route just before Christmas. Since then the car park in Marsh Green has been completed and the section near the bridge upgraded for wheelchair users and buggies. Many thanks to the landowners for providing such an attractive and accessible alternative to the original route.

ELECTRONIC MAP

ESCC Rights of Way team have produced an electronic map which gives the numbers of all the footpaths and stiles, making reference easier when contacting the department on Rights of Way issues.

<http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/rightsofway/rightsofwaymap/intro.htm> will take you straight there.

Jo Edwarde - Chair Rights of Way.

GREAT OFFER OF FREE SMOKE ALARMS. East Sussex Fire & Rescue Centre are offering **FREE** smoke alarms, supplied and fitted to householders who fall into these categories: *Over 65, lone pensioner, single parent, reduced mobility, hearing or sight impaired.

To request an appointment please call free on 0800 177 7069 or apply by email enquiries@esfrs.org or write to The Community Safety Team East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service FREEPOST SEA 12712, 20 Upperton Road Eastbourne East Sussex BN2 1BR

* Even if you do not qualify for a free alarm you can get a free info. pack giving advice on fire safety guidance



HARTFIELD COMMUNITY PLAY WE'RE UP AND RUNNING!

Last month at a public meeting Hartfield voted 'yes' to having a Community Play and we are now taking our first steps on this very exciting journey!

What does this mean? Well, over the next year, we are going to come together in a variety of ways: researching the stories of our village; attending workshops and activities; enjoying events, festivals and celebrations. All of this creative work is going to combine in the writing of a script for and about our village. A team of directors and producers will then guide us in the performance of a magnificent play! It sounds daunting, but we are going to be guided and supported every step of the way by the theatre company Claque. To take this project forward we need a team of people who are willing to step up and help guide this process along. We will need people who would like to help with research, marketing, organising funds and communication. If you are interested in researching stories or guiding the project forward, please get in touch. **Call Penny Lamb on 01342 826835** Want to find out more? Visit the Hartfield Chatterbox blog at <http://hartfieldchatterbox.tumblr.com> to catch up with the latest goings on.

THE RUDE MECHANICAL THEATRE COMPANY

Professional theatre "commedia dell'arte" style comes to the Town Croft Hartfield Thursday 7th July 2011 at 7.30pm with professional actors performing a brand new play with a clutch of songs, called "**Gentle Harry's Farm**"

Both the Community Play & Pavilion Fund will benefit

Tickets now on sale at Pooh Corner 770456 or www.therudemechanicaltheatre.co.uk 01323 50126



COMMUNITY SNIPPETS



Hatch AGM 16th April 2pm- This follows the Hartfield Lunch Club at 12.30 pm Duncan Ball 01892 771331
Hartfield Singers Concert 22nd April (Good Friday) 7.30 pm Pat Arnold 01892 611414
Coleman's Hatch Horticultural Show 30th July - Eve James 034 823506
Horticultural Show Special - 150th Anniversary 6th August Town Croft - Thelma Schorr 771064
Village Fete 3rd September Town Croft - Jonathan Squire 01342 850474

SOUTH & SOUTH EAST IN BLOOM

Hartfield is once again entering the competition and we really would like to win gold this year. The judging will be during the first two weeks of July. To start off our campaign we propose a village tidy up on Saturday 16th April with brooms, spades etc. 10am Then we will replant the village tubs on Saturday 30th at 10.00am with more working parties on Saturday 14th May and 4th June; again from 10.00am - more dates to follow later. **Sheila van Maurik- 01892 770273**



GROOMBRIDGE & HARTFIELD MEDICAL GROUP

	CURRENT OPENING HOURS			
	HARTFIELD SURGERY		GROOMBRIDGE SURGERY	
Monday	08.25 – 13.00	14.00 – 18.30	08.25 – 12.30	14.00 – 18.00
Tuesday	08.25 – 13.00	14.00 – 18.30	08.25 – 12.30	CLOSED
Wednesday	08.25 – 13.00	14.00 – 18.30*	08.25 – 12.30	CLOSED
Wednesday	* every 2 nd 3 rd & 4 th	*Will close at 20.00	*open 7 am 1st 2 nd & 4 th	14.00 – 18.00
Thursday	08.25 – 13.00	CLOSED	08.25 – 12.30	14.00 – 18.00
Friday	08.25 – 13.00	14.00 – 18.30	08.25 – 12.30	14.00- 18.00
Saturday	1 st Saturday 9.15 – 10.30	CLOSED	3 rd Saturday 8.30 - 10.00	CLOSED

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP We have had two exploratory meetings with a selection of patients who have volunteered to be part of the initial group. The patients met again on the 11th April to agree their terms of reference, constitution, appointment of officers etc. They have a draft mission statement:- *“to reflect the views of the patients to the practice management and to assist the practice in providing an effective service to the community it serves within the resources available, taking into account the views of the practice management and to give this appropriate publicity”*

The purpose might be:- *Facilitate pastoral care * Enable networking * Promote good communication/access between the patients and the surgery *Facilitate information to patients regarding the way the surgery works, why decisions are made and the financial restraints that influence these.

The PPG can be contacted via the practice website www.groombridgeandhartfieldmedicalgroup.co.uk or by calling Emma Darrington or Sue Pilson at the surgery who will pass on your details.

Hartfield Guides



Sammy and I have been selected from 50 guides and scouts from around the country to help those less fortunate than ourselves in Tanzania. Our group have chosen to help build a small medical centre in the remote village of Itete in Tanzania. Led by the local priest, the community are planning to rebuild a section of the old mission church to be used as a fully equipped and staffed medical centre, housing around 16 beds. To support the community in achieving this aim, we are going to work with the African Space Trust to build the new dispensary.

Sammy and I, are looking for sponsors or odd jobs over the holiday/weekends or we would be happy to give a presentation at any local meetings to explain the project before and after and share our exciting experiences, we look forward to hearing from you please contact - **Jessica Goldsmith** 01892 665389 hartfieldguides@btconnect.com

CHILDREN’S PLAYGROUND TOWN CROFT We congratulate CAMRA led by **Community Spaces**

Mandie Hales who has put in a great deal of hard work in liaising with Groundwork professional facilitators which has resulted in an award of £50,000 from Community spaces (part of the Big Lottery Fund) to completely revamp the Playground. CAMRA worked closely with the Town Croft & Parish Assets committee and consulted widely with parishioners. The Parish Council contributed £5000 from 106 money obtained from the developers on the sale of the land at the Coalyard. We have agreed to act as the Accountable Body to oversee proper distribution of funds. Work is expected to start on 16th May and finish before the summer holidays.



WEALDLINK -BUS ARRIVES



In November 2007 the participating Parish Councils Buxted, Danehill, Forest Row, Hartfield, Maresfield, & Withyham, who make a financial contribution from their precepts, formed the North Wealden Community Transport Partnership Ltd. Last year NWCTP Ltd was one of eight successful community transport operators throughout the UK to be granted a place in the Community Transport Association UK’s Rural Social Enterprise Programme, a package of grants, loans and administrative support awarded with the express purpose of developing opportunities for community transport in rural areas.

In March 2011 thanks to this award, NWCTP took delivery of its first vehicle, a brand-new wheelchair-accessible Peugeot 15 seater minibus. Owning their own minibus will enable the Company to extend the service to provide trips for local groups of all ages and requirements, as well as the shopping trips and plans are already in place to acquire a second, pre-owned vehicle by the end of May. Managed previously by volunteer Trustees, the Company now has the funding to employ a full-time Business Development Manager, Scott Lipa, formerly Community Transport Manager for East Sussex County Council. He will be based at the Company’s office at Hodore Farm where the bus will also be kept. NWCTP as a non-profit organisation will continue to rely heavily on volunteers. There will also be opportunities for volunteers to handle telephone enquiries and bookings. Full training will be given and out-of-pocket expenses paid. **We are actively seeking more drivers.** If you would like to help, please contact scott.lipa@4weald.co.uk New office telephone number awaited. Web site www.4weald.co.uk

INVITATION FROM OUR PCSO SHARON DERSLEY

Sharon Dersley has arranged two informal panel meetings in Hartfield. The first on the 26th April – meet outside the village shop at Midday and the second on the Town Croft at the Sports Pavilion on 16th May at 4.30pm.



Contact details 0845 6070999 email - Sharon.dersley@sussexpnn.police.uk

TOWN CROFT & PARISH ASSETS

As noted in the Chairman’s report, during the last four years a great deal of maintenance work has been implemented by this committee with approval of the full Parish Council. Coleman’s Hatch bus shelter was completely overhauled, painted and new roof tiles fitted. The Hartfield shelter needed less attention. All 27 seats in the parish have been restored and treated with preservative. New posts and chains were fixed round the War Memorial and a new tall oak post replaced in the Memorial Gardens with the sign repainted. Whilst we employ a gardener for a few hours once a fortnight a considerable amount of work is also undertaken voluntarily by parishioners to help keep this well-loved haven in the centre of our village looking good. All the traditional Sussex sign posts in the parish have been professionally painted and restored. A large part of our efforts have been concentrated on the Town Croft. We have been following a programme of professional ground maintenance for some time which has paid dividends because at the end of the football season we still have plenty of grass unlike many pitches. The pavilion restoration has progressed steadily as fund raising allows. We got a grant this year from Wealden which helped. The Village Fete has been very generous too as the Croft plays host to all such traditional events and we provide space in the Croft Barn for storage for the fete. The Fun Run has become a popular event and all profits go to the pavilion refurbishment fund. Work so far.



- Broken roof tiles.
- New changing rooms and upgraded sanitary ware fittings installed.
- New mains water supply negotiated with the Primary Care Trust F.O.C
- New Calor gas central heating and powerful hot showers plus a single referee shower demanded by leagues now.
- Two small cloakrooms knocked into one to form proper facilities for wheelchair users.
- Fully fitted new kitchen with two new fridges and other kitchen appliances, including hot water dispenser for drinks cooker and glass washer.

Estimates for kitchen flooring have been sought. Quotes for replacement double glazed windows have been received but this will have to remain on our wish list at the moment until more funds are raised.

A working party will soon commence exterior repairs and some painting.

Nancy Holmes - Chair Town Croft & Parish Assets



AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN HARTFIELD –IMPORTANT INFORMATION .

The 9 houses at Old Crown Farm have already been occupied and families happily settled in. Hartfield Parish Council is following very closely the allocations policy implemented by WDC. We went to a great deal of effort to acquire land at the Old Coalyard to provide housing for our parishioners or those who had been forced to move away due to the high commercial prices. Along with other young couples who came to the public exhibition, we too were disappointed that the rules had changed and shared ownership schemes were no longer available. On the positive side, however, there are a further 5 x 3 bedroom houses and 4 x 2 bedroomed houses at very reasonable rents at the Old Coalyard, due for completion in July **but allocations will be made much sooner.** If you are seriously interested in renting one of these properties it is imperative you **act now** and follow the correct procedures. According to the housing policy they will only go to those outside the parish if there are not enough applicants from Hartfield who meet the criteria of local connection. The houses will be known as 1-9 Railway Cottages, Edenbridge Road, Hartfield. What you must do:-

1. First you must fill in a Housing Application Form available from WDC (01323 443380) or from our Hartfield Parish Clerk 01342 822404. For advice do ring Wealden Hailsham Office asking for John Scrace, Hannah Pelling or Louise Featherstone.
2. When filling in the form you must emphasise your eligibility to apply for affordable housing by stating your Hartfield connection either through family or working or living in the Parish.
3. Every two weeks Wealden advertise all the available Council and Housing Association homes on the website www.homemove.org.uk and in the free **Homemove magazine**. They announce a bidding period which is usually **quite short so you must watch carefully** for when the houses are advertised so you can put in your bid for one of them.

Clerk to the Council	Mrs. Emma Fulham	01342 822404	parishclerk@hartfieldonline.com
Chairman of the Parish Council	Cllr. John Chalke	01892 770540	johnchalke@gmail.com
Vice Chair Parish Council, Chair of Rights of Way & Playschool Trustees	Cllr. Jo Edwarde	01892 770201	joedwarde@hotmail.com
Chair of Planning	Cllr. Chris Simmons*	01342 850837	
Chair of Town Croft & Parish Assets	Cllr. Nancy Holmes	01892 770294	nancyholmes@bopenworld.com
Chair of Environment & Transport	Cllr. Mike Colenutt	01892 770840	mikecolenutt@btinternet.com
	Cllr. Kevin Hawes	01342 825827	kevin_hawes@talktalk.net
	Cllr. Anne Higgins	01892 770312	annehigginshartfield@hotmail.co
	Cllr. George Korbel*	01342 822720	gjkorbel@btinternet.com
Tree Warden	Cllr. Clair Park*	01892 770326	clairpark@btinternet.com
	Cllr. Tom Mitchell*	01892 770227	
	Cllr. Clare Risby	01342 824599	clare.newbridge@dsl.pipex.com
	Cllr. John Smith	01892 770871	smithorchardview@aol.com
NB* = NOT STANDING AGAIN	Cllr. Sheila Van Maurik*	01892 770273	
Wealden District Councillor (Hartfield Ward)	Cllr. Michael Hoy*	01892 770166	michael.hoy@wealden.gov.uk
Wealden District Councillor (Holtye Ward)	Cllr. David Jonas*	01342 826144	david.jonas@wealden.gov.uk
EAST SUSSEX COUNTY Councillor	Cllr. Francis Whetstone	01892 770304	franciswhetstone@eastsussex.gov.uk

WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL 01892 653311 EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL 01273 481000
 POLICE – Emergencies 999 or 112 PCSO Sharon Dersley 0845 6070999 sharon.dersley@sussexpnn.police.uk
 Newsletter Editor – Cllr. Nancy Holmes © Hartfield Parish Council April 2011
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